

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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| SUBJECT | Chinese Communist Anti-Religious Activities, Kiangsi | DATE DISTR. | 17 August 1953 |
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1. About early April 1953, an organization called the Committee for the Abolition of Reactionary Societies and Religious Bodies was active in Wuchou (N 23-28, E 111-19).
2. On 15 April five members of the I Kuan Tao (0001/6306/6670)¹ were arrested.² They were CH'EN Ping-hsin, CH'EN Jui-kuang (7115/3843/0342), HO Hui-ch'ing (0149/1920/0615), LIU Wei-ch'uan (0491/3262/3123) and FENG Ai-chen (7458/1947/3791).
3. On the same day three members of the Kuei Ken Tao (2981/2704/6670)³ were arrested.² They were CHOU Lien-hui (0719/5571/6540), LO Fo-yuan (5012/0154/4878) and LI Ying-t'ung (2621/5391/2717).
4. Those arrested were charged with being members of religious groups that had collaborated with the Japanese imperialists in the past and were now collaborating with the American imperialists and the Nationalist government. They were paraded through the streets while being publicly accused of spreading rumors, agitating, and conducting sabotage operations.

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1. Comment. The literal translation for this is "Universal Religion."

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 Comment. According to the 20 December 1950 issue of the *Jen Min Jih Pao*, the Chinese Communist government considers the I Kuan Tao a subversive organization. The paper stated that this is a Buddhist society, called the religion of continuity; that its leader was CHANG Kuang-pi; and that it was variously known by the following names: T'ien Tao, K'ung Meng Tao, Chen Tao, Sien Tien Tao, Er Kuan Tao, Kung Ming Tao, Sin Li Tao, Pai Yang Tao, Tien Kung Tao, Shin Hsen Tao (sic). According to information available in May 1952, Chinese Nationalist Military authorities had forbidden

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soldiers to join the I Kuan Tao or the T'ien Ti Tao because they lowered the morale of the troops. One sub-section of the Fourth Section of the Political Department of the Chinese Nationalist army was investigating units of the Nationalist army to weed out soldiers who had joined either one of the societies. Apparently some form of the I Kuan Tao is found in both Communist and Nationalist areas.

- 25X1A 2. Comment. Presumably the members were arrested as a result of action taken by the Committee reported in paragraph one.
- 25X1X 3. Comment. The literal translation for this is "Back to Original Religion."

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